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# **China, People's Republic of**

## **Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards**

### **Registration Regulation for Foreign Manufacturers of Imported Food**

### **2002**

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**This is an UNOFFICIAL translation of the People's Republic of China *Registration Management Regulation for Foreign Manufacturers of Imported Food* and should be used as a guide only. Exporters should carefully discuss regulations and their application with Chinese importers to ensure that their interpretation is accurate.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Beijing [CH1], CH

This report was prepared by the Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Beijing, People's Republic of China for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

### Summary

This regulation is designed to monitor foreign manufacturers of food products exported to China. The appendix of this report includes the *Catalog of Imported Food Subject to Enterprise Registration*. At this time, only meat and meat by-products are included in this catalog.

The *Registration Management Regulations for Foreign Manufacturers of Imported Food* have been reviewed and approved by the executive committee of the State General Administration for Quality Supervision and Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ). These regulations are now implemented after having been signed by the Director General of AQSIQ on March 14, 2002. The *Registration Management Regulations on Foreign Manufacturers of Imported Food* (trial version) published by the former State Administration for Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine (CIQ) on December 30, 1999 is now annulled.

### Registration Management Regulations for Foreign Manufacturers of Imported Food

State General Administration for Quality Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine Decree No. 16

#### Chapter I. General Provisions

Article 1. These regulations are promulgated to protect the national agriculture, forestry, livestock and fishery industries as well as human health and to facilitate inspection, quarantine, monitoring and management over imported food. The regulations are based on the *Animal and Plant Entry-Exit Quarantine Law of the People's Republic of China* (CH1051), the *Food Hygiene Law of the People's Republic of China* (CH1042), the *Law on Commodity Entry-Exit Inspection of the People's Republic of China*, and the respective implementation regulations.

Article 2. These regulations apply to the registration management for foreign production, processing, and storage enterprises (hereinafter referred to as a "foreign manufacturer") that export food (including all edible animal and plant products) to China.

Article 3. Authorized by the State Council, the National Certification and Accreditation Administration of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as CNCA) shall undertake the registration and management of foreign manufacturers of imported food.

Article 4. CNCA shall be responsible for the announcement and publication of the *Catalog of Imported Food Subject to Enterprise Registration* (hereinafter referred to as the "catalog").

Article 5. Any foreign manufacturer that intends to export products listed in the catalog shall apply for

registration with CNCA. Products from unregistered foreign manufacturers of food listed in the catalog shall not be imported.

Article 6. "Food" mentioned in these regulations refers to all products and raw materials intended for human consumption.

#### Chapter II. Registration Requirements

Article 7. The systems of veterinary service, plant protection, and sanitation management in the country (region) where the foreign manufacturer applying for registration originates from shall be evaluated and endorsed by CNCA.

Article 8. The country (region) where the foreign manufacturer applying for registration originates from shall be free of epidemics. Necessary documents shall be supplied to authenticate that the animal and/or plant raw material being exported to China originates from an epidemic-free area.

Article 9. The foreign manufacturer shall be approved by and subject to effective monitoring from the relevant authority of the country (region) of origin. In addition, the sanitary conditions of the foreign manufacturer enterprise shall be in accordance with the relevant provisions prescribed in Chinese laws, regulations, and standards.

#### Chapter III. Registration Application and Approval

Article 10. A foreign manufacturer applying for registration shall submit its formal application in writing with the following documents:

- 1) The status of animal and plant diseases in the country (region) of origin along with the laws or regulations on veterinary sanitation, public hygiene, plant protection, monitoring residues of pesticides and veterinary medicines.
- 2) The name of the foreign manufacturer applying for registration.
- 3) Assessment report on quarantine and sanitation situations of the foreign manufacturer by the relevant authorities in the country (region) of origin.
- 4) Commitments by the relevant authorities of the country (region) of origin that the foreign manufacturer meets the requirements for Chinese laws and regulations.
- 5) Supporting documents about the foreign manufacturer enterprise (such as factory layout, workshop and freezer design, illustration of production flow, etc.)

Article 11. CNCA shall appoint experts to review the above documents provided by the country (regions) of the exporting manufacturer. If the documents are approved, an evaluation team will be sent to the recommended foreign manufacturers to conduct field evaluation and produce an appraisal report for CNCA. A qualified foreign manufacturer shall be registered following the approval by CNCA.

#### Chapter IV. Monitoring and Management

Article 12. CNCA shall undertake monitoring management over foreign manufacturing enterprises of food intended for import into China and shall re-examine the registered foreign manufacturers as necessary.

Article 13. If a foreign manufacturer fails re-examination, CNCA shall inform the relevant authority of the foreign manufacturer country (region) of origin to encourage the manufacturer to correct the situation within a

specified time frame or have the registration canceled. If the enterprise re-applies for registration, the relevant authorities of its country (region) shall produce a written report to CNCA after the corrections are completed. Exports to China may resume once the review has been approved.

Article 14. The registered foreign manufacturer shall carry out production, processing, and storage of food exported to China under the monitoring of the competent authorities of the country (region) of origin, and label eligible products with registration numbers endorsed by CNCA on the product packaging.

Article 15. The entry-exit inspection and quarantine agencies shall conduct inspection and quarantine over imports of products by registered foreign manufacturers.

Article 16. In the event the products by registered foreign manufacturers fail inspection and quarantine, the products will be returned, destroyed, or subject to disinfection treatment, or, in severe cases, registration cancellation in accordance with Chinese laws and regulations.

Article 17. The registration numbers of foreign manufacturers shall be used solely by the authorized enterprise. Registration numbers shall not be transferred to others. Foreign manufacturer registration shall be revoked by CNCA if the foreign manufacturer is found exporting the products of others or is found to have transferred its registration number to another enterprise.

#### Chapter V. Supplementary Provisions

Article 18. In serious instances where a public announcement of a disease or epidemic has been made by an international organization or the competent authority of an exporting country (region), or a disease has been detected at entry quarantine inspection or there is a loss of control of public hygiene, AQSIQ will suspend imports of relevant products from the exporting country (region) by issuing a public notice.

Article 19. The competent authority of the exporting country (region) shall assist with the field evaluation work of the evaluation team dispatched by CNCA.

Article 20. The competent authority of the exporting country (region) shall notify CNCA of any alterations to a registered foreign manufacturer in a timely manner.

Article 21. The registration documents submitted to CNCA shall be in both Chinese and English.

Article 22. CNCA is authorized by AQSIQ to interpret these regulations.

Article 23. These regulations shall take effect upon publication. The *Management Regulations on Foreign Manufacturers of Imported Food (Trial version)* published by the former State Administration for Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine (CIQ) on December 30, 1999 shall be annulled..

Appendix: Catalog of Imported Food Subject to Enterprise Registration (first group) 1/

**Catalog of Imported Food Subject to Enterprise Registration (first group)**

Meat (including all livestock and poultry meat, meat products, edible by-products and organs)

1/ Note: As published there is only one group in the appendix.